

CLAIMS

1. A moving image management apparatus for management of plural moving images recorded on a storage medium in  
5 correspondence with one or plural representative images, comprising:

means for recording a representative image representing an arbitrary section or the whole of a moving image;

10 means for recording information indicating the section or the whole of the moving image represented by said representative image in correspondence with said representative image; and

means for recording information indicating a  
15 position of an image as a base of said representative image in correspondence with said representative image,

wherein in case of said representative image is designated by a user, it is interpreted that the section or the whole of the moving image represented by the  
20 representative image is selected.

2. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for recording information indicating a  
25 purpose of said representative image as attribute information in correspondence with said representative image; and

means for selecting only said representative image corresponding to the purpose based on said attribute information.

5     3. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 2, when said representative image is designated by the user, it is interpreted that the section or the whole of the moving image represented by the representative image is selected, and a function  
10 corresponding to the purpose is applied to the selected section or the whole of the moving image.

4. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

15         means for recording information indicating a purpose of said representative image as attribute information; and

       means for classifying only said representative image for each purpose based on said attribute  
20 information.

5. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 4, wherein when said representative image is designated by the user, it is interpreted that the  
25 section or the whole of the moving image represented by the representative image is selected, and a function corresponding to the purpose is applied to the selected

section or the whole of the moving image.

6. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 2, wherein when said information indicating the  
5 section or the whole of the moving image represented by said representative image and said attribute information are recorded on the storage medium, they are recorded by representative image in a particular continuous portion.

10 7. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 6, wherein when said information indicating a position of an image as a base of said representative image and said representative image are recorded on the storage medium, they are recorded by representative  
15 image in a particular portion.

8. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said particular portion is a continuous area on the storage medium.

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9. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 7 or 8, wherein only significant information of said information indicating a position of an image as a base of said representative image and said  
25 representative image is recorded in a portion for easy storage and access.

10. The moving image management apparatus according to any one of claims 2 to 9, wherein in said means for recording information indicating a purpose of said representative image as attribute information, said  
5 attribute information is an identification number previously defined for purpose.

11. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said means for selecting only said  
10 representative image corresponding to the purpose based on said attribute information selects a representative image having said attribute information corresponding to a browsing operation,

and wherein said apparatus has display means for  
15 displaying the representative image,

further wherein application of function corresponding to the purpose to the selected section or the whole of the moving image is reproduction means for, when a desired representative image is designated from  
20 representative images displayed by said display means, reproducing a corresponding moving image based on section information added to the representative image.

12. The moving image management apparatus according to  
25 claim 2, wherein if an editing range is designated in a desired moving image, said means for selecting only said representative image corresponding to said purpose based

on said attribute information selects a representative image having said attribute information corresponding to an editing operation and within the editing range,

and wherein said apparatus has display means for  
5 displaying the representative image within said editing range.

13. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 3, wherein in a print operation to print a desired  
10 frame in a desired moving image, said means for selecting only said representative image corresponding to the purpose based on said attribute information selects a representative image having said attribute information corresponding to the print operation from  
15 representative images corresponding to said desired moving image,

and wherein said apparatus has display means for displaying the representative image having said attribute information corresponding to the print  
20 operation,

further wherein application of function corresponding to a designated purpose to the selected section or the whole of the moving image when a desired representative image is designated from representative  
25 images displayed by said display means, is output means for, when a desired representative image is designated from representative images displayed by said display

means, referring to the information indicating a position of an image as a base of said representative image, and outputting a desired frame for print output.

- 5 14. A moving image management apparatus for management of plural moving images recorded on a storage medium in correspondence with one or plural representative images, comprising:

generation means for generating a representative  
10 image representing an arbitrary section or the whole of a moving image;

first recording means for recording information indicating the section or the whole of the moving image represented by said representative image in  
15 correspondence with said representative image; and

second recording means for recording information indicating a position of an image as a base of said representative image in correspondence with said representative image.

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15. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising:

adding means for adding information indicating a purpose of said representative image as attribute  
25 information;

means for recording said attribute information added by said adding means in correspondence with said

representative image; and

means for selecting only said representative image corresponding to the purpose based on said attribute information.

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16. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 15, wherein when said representative image is designated by the user, it is interpreted that the section or the whole of the moving image represented by the representative image is selected, and a function corresponding to the purpose is applied to the selected section or the whole of the moving image.

17. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising:

adding means for adding information indicating a purpose of said representative image as attribute information;

means for recording the attribute information added by said adding means in correspondence with said representative image; and

means for classifying only said representative image for each purpose based on said attribute information.

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18. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 17, wherein when said representative image is

designated by the user, it is interpreted that the section or the whole of the moving image represented by the representative image is selected, and a function corresponding to the purpose is applied to the selected  
5 section or the whole of the moving image.

19. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 15, wherein when said information indicating the section or the whole of the moving image represented by  
10 said representative image and said attribute information are recorded on the storage medium, they are recorded by representative image in a particular continuous portion.

20. The moving image management apparatus according to  
15 claim 19, wherein when said information indicating a position of an image as a base of said representative image and said representative image are recorded on the storage medium, they are recorded by representative image in a particular portion.

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21. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said particular portion is a continuous area on the storage medium.

25 22. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 20 or 21, wherein only significant information of said information indicating a position of an image as a

base of said representative image and said  
representative image is recorded in a portion for easily  
storage and access.

5 23. The moving image management apparatus according to  
any one of claims 15 to 22, wherein in said means for  
recording information indicating a purpose of said  
representative image as attribute information, said  
attribute information is an identification number  
10 previously defined for purpose.

24. The moving image management apparatus according to  
claim 16, wherein said means for selecting only said  
representative image corresponding to the purpose based  
15 on said attribute information selects a representative  
image having said attribute information corresponding to  
a browsing operation,

and wherein said apparatus has display means for  
displaying the representative image,

20 further wherein application of function  
corresponding to the purpose to the selected section or  
the whole of the moving image is reproduction means for,  
when a desired representative image is designated from  
representative images displayed by said display means,  
25 reproducing a corresponding moving image based on  
section information added to the representative image.

25. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 15, wherein if an editing range is designated in a desired moving image, said means for selecting only said representative image corresponding to said purpose based on said attribute information selects a representative image having said attribute information corresponding to an editing operation and within the editing range,

and wherein said apparatus has display means for displaying the representative image within said editing range.

26. The moving image management apparatus according to claim 16, wherein in a print operation to print a desired frame in a desired moving image, said means for selecting only said representative image corresponding to the purpose based on said attribute information selects a representative image having said attribute information corresponding to the print operation from representative images corresponding to said desired moving image,

and wherein said apparatus has display means for displaying the representative image having said attribute information corresponding to the print operation,

further wherein application of function corresponding to a designated purpose to the selected section or the whole of the moving image when a desired

representative image is designated from representative images displayed by said display means, is output means for, when a desired representative image is designated from representative images displayed by said display  
5 means, referring to the information indicating a position of an image as a base of said representative image, and outputting a desired frame for print output.

27. A moving image management method for management of  
10 plural moving images recorded on a storage medium in correspondence with one or plural representative images, comprising:

a step of recording a representative image representing an arbitrary section or the whole of a  
15 moving image;

a step of recording information indicating the section or the whole of the moving image represented by said representative image in correspondence with said representative image; and

20 a step of recording information indicating a position of an image as a base of said representative image in correspondence with said representative image,

wherein in case of said representative image is designated by a user, it is interpreted that the section  
25 or the whole of the moving image represented by the representative image is selected.

28. The moving image management method according to claim 27, further comprising:

a step of recording information indicating a purpose of said representative image as attribute

5 information in correspondence with said representative image; and

a step of selecting only said representative image corresponding to the purpose based on said attribute information.

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29. The moving image management method according to claim 28, when said representative image is designated by the user, it is interpreted that the section or the whole of the moving image represented by the

15 representative image is selected, and a function corresponding to the purpose is applied to the selected section or the whole of the moving image.

30. The moving image management method according to claim 27, further comprising:

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a step of recording information indicating a purpose of said representative image as attribute information; and

a step of classifying only said representative image for each purpose based on said attribute information.

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31. The moving image management method according to claim 30, wherein when said representative image is designated by the user, it is interpreted that the section or the whole of the moving image represented by the representative image is selected, and a function corresponding to the purpose is applied to the selected section or the whole of the moving image.

32. The moving image management method according to claim 28, wherein when said information indicating the section or the whole of the moving image represented by said representative image and said attribute information are recorded on the storage medium, they are recorded by representative image in a particular continuous portion.

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33. The moving image management method according to claim 32, wherein when said information indicating a position of an image as a base of said representative image and said representative image are recorded on the storage medium, they are recorded by representative image in a particular portion.

34. The moving image management method according to claim 33, wherein said particular portion is a continuous area on the storage medium.

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35. The moving image management method according to

claim 33 or 34, wherein only significant information of  
said information indicating a position of an image as a  
base of said representative image and said  
representative image is recorded in a portion for easily  
5 storage and access.

36. The moving image management method according to any  
one of claims 28 to 35, wherein at said step of  
recording information indicating a purpose of said  
10 representative image as attribute information, said  
attribute information is an identification number  
previously defined for purpose.

37. The moving image management method according to  
15 claim 29, wherein at said step of selecting only said  
representative image corresponding to the purpose based  
on said attribute information, a representative image  
having said attribute information corresponding to a  
browsing operation is selected,

20 and wherein said method has a display step of  
displaying the representative image,

further wherein application of function  
corresponding to the purpose to the selected section or  
the whole of the moving image is a reproduction step of,  
25 when a desired representative image is designated from  
representative images displayed at said display step,  
reproducing a corresponding moving image based on

section information added to the representative image.

38. The moving image management method according to  
claim 28, wherein if an editing range is designated in a  
5 desired moving image, said step of selecting only said  
representative image corresponding to said purpose based  
on said attribute information, a representative image  
having said attribute information corresponding to an  
editing operation and within the editing range is  
10 selected,

and wherein said method has a display step of  
displaying the representative image within said editing  
range.

15 39. The moving image management method according to  
claim 29, wherein in a print operation to print a  
desired frame in a desired moving image, at said step of  
selecting only said representative image corresponding  
to the purpose based on said attribute information, a  
20 representative image having said attribute information  
corresponding to the print operation is selected from  
representative images corresponding to said desired  
moving image,

and wherein said method has a display step of  
25 displaying the representative image having said  
attribute information corresponding to the print  
operation,

further wherein application of function  
corresponding to a designated purpose to the selected  
section or the whole of the moving image when a desired  
representative image is designated from representative  
5 images displayed at said display step is an output step  
of, when a desired representative image is designated  
from representative images displayed at said display  
step, referring to the information indicating a position  
of an image as a base of said representative image, and  
10 outputting a desired frame for print output.

40. A moving image management method for management of  
plural moving images recorded on a storage medium in  
correspondence with one or plural representative images,  
15 comprising:

a generation step of generating a representative  
image representing an arbitrary section or the whole of  
a moving image;

a first recording step of recording information  
20 indicating the section or the whole of the moving image  
represented by said representative image in  
correspondence with said representative image; and

a second recording step of recording information  
indicating a position of an image as a base of said  
25 representative image in correspondence with said  
representative image.

41. The moving image management method according to claim 40, further comprising:

an adding step of adding information indicating a purpose of said representative image as attribute

5 information;

a step of recording said attribute information added at said adding step in correspondence with said representative image; and

a step of selecting only said representative image  
10 corresponding to the purpose based on said attribute information.

42. The moving image management method according to claim 41, wherein when said representative image is  
15 designated by the user, it is interpreted that the section or the whole of the moving image represented by the representative image is selected, and a function corresponding to the purpose is applied to the selected section or the whole of the moving image.

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43. The moving image management method according to claim 40, further comprising:

an adding step of adding information indicating a purpose of said representative image as attribute

25 information;

a step of recording the attribute information added by said adding means in correspondence with said

representative image; and

a step of classifying only said representative image for each purpose based on said attribute information.

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44. The moving image management method according to claim 43, wherein when said representative image is designated by the user, it is interpreted that the section or the whole of the moving image represented by the representative image is selected, and a function corresponding to the purpose is applied to the selected section or the whole of the moving image.

45. The moving image management method according to claim 15, wherein when said information indicating the section or the whole of the moving image represented by said representative image and said attribute information are recorded on the storage medium, they are recorded by representative image in a particular continuous portion.

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46. The moving image management method according to claim 45, wherein when said information indicating a position of an image as a base of said representative image and said representative image are recorded on the storage medium, they are recorded by representative image in a particular portion.

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47. The moving image management method according to claim 46, wherein said particular portion is a continuous area on the storage medium.

5 48. The moving image management method according to claim 46 or 47, wherein only significant information of said information indicating a position of an image as a base of said representative image and said representative image is recorded in a portion for easily  
10 storage and access.

49. The moving image management method according to any one of claims 41 to 48, wherein at said step of recording information indicating a purpose of said  
15 representative image as attribute information, said attribute information is an identification number previously defined for purpose.

50. The moving image management method according to  
20 claim 42, wherein at said step of selecting only said representative image corresponding to the purpose based on said attribute information, a representative image having said attribute information corresponding to a browsing operation is selected,

25 and said method has a display step of displaying the representative image,

further wherein application of function

corresponding to the purpose to the selected section or the whole of the moving image is a reproduction step of, when a desired representative image is designated from representative images displayed at said display step,  
5 reproducing a corresponding moving image based on section information added to the representative image.

51. The moving image management method according to claim 41, wherein if an editing range is designated in a  
10 desired moving image, at said step of selecting only said representative image corresponding to the purpose based on said attribute information, a representative image having said attribute information corresponding to an editing operation and within the editing range is  
15 selected,

and wherein said method has a display step of displaying the representative image within said editing range.

20 52. The moving image management method according to claim 42, wherein in a print operation to print a desired frame in a desired moving image, at said step of selecting only said representative image corresponding to the purpose based on said attribute information, a  
25 representative image having said attribute information corresponding to the print operation is selected from representative images corresponding to said desired

moving image,

and wherein said method has a display step of displaying the representative image having said attribute information corresponding to the print

5 operation,

further wherein application of function corresponding to a designated purpose to the selected section or the whole of the moving image when a desired representative image is designated from representative  
10 images displayed at said display step, is an output step for, when a desired representative image is designated from representative images displayed at said display step, referring to the information indicating a position of an image as a base of said representative image, and  
15 outputting a desired frame for print output.

53. A storage medium holding a control program for executing the moving image management method according to any one of claims 19 to 36 by a computer.

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54. A control program for executing the moving image management method according to any one of claims 19 to 36 by a computer.